



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

But none of these criticisms alters the fact that we have here for many reasons the best biography of Washington yet written. It is written with admirable spirit and enthusiasm, expressed in clear and choice language. The narrative never lags, and is never forced. Instead of a "merely wise, good and solemn" personality, Mr. Lodge has given us a man of superabundant activity, a nature that appeals to our interest. A psychological analysis of Washington's mind can as yet be attempted on very partial evidence; but until such an analysis is possible, Mr. Lodge's volumes will afford the best estimate we have of the man's personality.

WORTHINGTON CHAUNCEY FORD.

A History of the Kansas Crusade, its Friends and its Foes. By ELI THAYER. Introduction by Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE, D.D. New York, Harper & Brothers, 1889.

All students of American history are acquainted with the great services rendered to the cause of liberty by the Emigrant Aid society. At the time when the fate of free institutions in America seemed most doubtful, when the slave power had imposed squatter-sovereignty upon the territory of the United States, a handful of men in New England devised a plan which checked the advance of the South, and which, being adopted as the creed of the Republican party, ultimately led to the abolition of slavery. No historian to-day would be so foolhardy as to deny the debt of gratitude which is owing to the men who organized this society and directed it to the accomplishment of its ends.

Prominent among these men was Eli Thayer, the secretary of the Emigrant Aid society and the author of *The Kansas Crusade*. From his position he must have known all the details regarding the raising and disbursement of the necessary funds; the means adopted for rousing the enthusiasm of the North, for inducing young men to leave their homes for the dangers and discomfort of a new country; the measures for arming and protecting the emigrants both on the field and in the cabinet,—in fine, all the minutiae which contributed to make the Kansas crusade so striking a success in political and economic history. It was to have been expected that a volume on this subject from such a source would teem with valuable material for the historian.

This is not the case. The book contains little that is valuable or interesting. It is composed largely of clippings from contemporary newspapers, and is so carelessly compiled that the author sometimes presents us twice with the same extract. What few new facts he does bring are unsystematically arranged. His vision is so narrow that he never sees any side of a question but his own; those who differ from him are not only weak-minded, but wicked.

Mr. Thayer's avowed object in writing this book is to prevent the abolitionists from obtaining any share of the credit attaching to the successful struggle against slavery. He fails to appreciate the deeply moral spirit of men like Garrison, which led them to denounce all half-measures and compromises such as politicians and statesmen are happy to carry through. He attributes to them only the basest and most sordid motives, forgetful that they differed in aim only from the "root and branch men" of the seventeenth century. In his efforts to glorify himself, and incidentally the Kansas crusade as his work, Mr. Thayer occasionally becomes ridiculous; as when he attributes the present material prosperity of the South directly and solely to that movement.

ROBERT WEIL.

The History of Land Tenure in Ireland; being the Yorke Prize Essay of the University of Cambridge for the year 1888. By WILLIAM ERNEST MONTGOMERY, M.A., LL.M. Cambridge University Press, 1889. — vi, 191 pp.

This is a valuable and suggestive little work. Students of the Irish question will find in it a concise and accurate presentation of the historical facts which are essential to an understanding of the social-economical phase of the long-standing difficulties. The author's endeavor to "write without prejudice and to carefully eschew present political controversy" is entirely successful. The rarity of such endeavor and of such success in the literature of Irish history gives extraordinary value to every new instance.

The key to an understanding of the land question is contained in the quotation from the Bessborough commission's report which Mr. Montgomery places at the head of his work:

There has in general survived to the Irish farmer, through all vicissitudes, in despite of the seeming or real veto of the law, in apparent defiance of political economy, a living tradition of possessory right such as belonged in the more primitive ages of society to the status of the man who tilled the soil.

The history of Irish land tenure involves little more than a comparison of the relation of the law at successive periods to this one persistent fact. It is on this idea that the essay before us is constructed. In part first the ancient Irish law, as expressed in the old Celtic customs and the Brehon code, is examined. The possessory right of the cultivator under this system is embodied in the principle of tribal ownership and succession by gavelkind. It is always an interesting question how far the tendency toward individual ownership is traceable in the early centuries of connection with the greater island. Mr. Montgomery summarizes very well all that can be said on this matter. He finds the progress of